City Of Granite Shoals
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# MEETING MINUTES
# CITY OF GRANITE SHOALS, TX
# REGULAR CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
# CITY HALL, 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBER, GRANITE SHOALS, TX
# TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016
# 6:00 PM

*The numbering below tracks that of the agenda, whereas the actual order of consideration may have varied.*

1. Mayor Brugger called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City Of Granite Shoals to order at 6:00 pm, Granite Shoals City Hall, Council Chamber, 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Road, Granite Shoals, Texas.

Present:
Carl Brugger, Mayor
Anita Hisey, Council Member, Plc. 1
Shirley King, Council Member, Plc. 2
Eric Tanner, Council Member, Plc. 3
Tom Dillard, Mayor Pro Tem
Todd Holland, Council Member, Plc. 5
Mark Morren, Council Member, Plc 6

Absent:

City Staff Present:
Ken Nickel, City Manager
Peggy Smith, Assistant City Manager
Brad Young, City Attorney
Elaine Simpson, City Secretary
Wendy Gholson, Finance Director
Austin Stanphill, Fire Chief
Gary Boshears, Chief of Police

2. Pastor Jackie English of the Christ Redeemer Church and the Granite Shoals Faith Alliance, gave the invocation.

3. Pledge to the US and the Texas State Flags, respectively.

4. **Public comment and announcements and Items of Interest**

*At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting. No discussion or deliberation can occur. Comments regarding specific agenda items should occur when the item is called. Anyone wishing to speak under this agenda item must complete a Comment Card and submit to the City Secretary prior to addressing the Council.*

- June 18, 2016 – Town Hall Meeting, Deer Management, Fire Hall 9 AM -11 AM
- June 28, 2016 – Granite Shoals Volunteer Appreciation Reception 5 PM – 6 PM
- June 30, 2016 – Open Meeting Law Training for Board and Committee Members 6:00 PM -7:30 PM
- June 30, 2016 – *Meet with Mayor* 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- LCRA status of Lake LBJ
- Former Council Member Peggy Edwards – Mayor B will recognize the late Council Members contributions to the City at the Volunteer Appreciation Reception.
- MFISD Nutrition and Book Bus – Three stops in Granite Shoals. Council Member Hisey noted that the Christmas Outreach was donating some books to the Book Bus.

The following citizens spoke:

1.) Roy Settlemyer: He spoke regarding street concerns.
2.) Michael Steenbergen: Mr. Steenbergen submitted a copy of his remarks in writing to the City Secretary. (excerpts from these written remarks are attached as Exhibit 'A' to these meeting minutes). He spoke regarding his concerns about the recent SWAG meeting, council actions, the recent election, the possible Road Infrastructure – Arterials Project, finances, the recent city newsletter, city staff communication in general, his desire to circulate a petition to call a Recall Election/Initiative/Referendum Election, the purchase of the current City Hall complex and City Boards and Committees.
3.) Dennis McCoy: He spoke regarding concerns regarding roads, drainage and the recent SWAG meeting.
4.) Arturo Rubio: He spoke regarding concerns about Arterial Road Infrastructure Project and the vision of the council for this project.
5. ) Mr. Martin 175 W. Bluebriar: He noted his concerns regarding problem with the pier at Bluebriar Park, it has a construction flaw, there is a gap between boards large enough for a child to put a foot through.
6.) Tina Collier, 1601 Valley West: She noted that she drives Valley View every day and she believes that Valley View and Prairie Creek should be addressed in the Arterial Roads Infrastructure Project. These streets should be done first.
7.) Glynis Smith, 1501 Belaire Dr.: She expressed support for the City Council members.
8.) Charles Highland, 336 E. Briar Lane: He asked that City Council continue to recognize members of the public to speak regarding agenda items, so long as said member of the public was not out of order.

5. **PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- **<u>Introduction of New Animal Control Officer Tim Edwards:</u>** *Police Chief Gary Boshears.*

Tim Edwards began working for Granite Shoals May 23, 2016. He comes to us with experience as a police officer from the City of Burnet. He has almost completed his training with Officer Kirkpatrick.

- **<u>Report from Parks Advisory Committee related to committee activities and projects:</u>** *Vice-Chair Brad Williams*

Vice Chair Williams informed council that the 'voluntary fee' for boat launches by non-residents has been successful, approximately $4,500 has been collected so far, and the pilot program is now in four parks. The committee hopes to expand to more parks including Parks 4, 8 and 14. The hope is to get these new boxes installed by July 4th holiday.

6. **<u>MANAGEMENT REPORTS</u>**

**a.) City Manager**

- S&P rating update- Granite Shoals has been given an increase in our bond rating by Standard and Poors. The report is included in the agenda packet. We are now rated 'A'.
- Meeting with Gandolf Burrus & structural engineer (*Peal and Associates, Inc.*) on May 26, 2016, related to park grant. The Peal and Associates engineering representatives met with us related to providing application assistance to us for applying for the next Park Grant.
- Marble Falls ISD / City of Granite Shoals discussions related to soccer fields. The memorandum of agreement detailing the plans for these soccer fields to be built at Highland Lakes Elementary, is still being reviewed by legal staff at the ISD.
- USDA Rural Development Grant for future road improvement project. City staff submitted a project description for initial review. Council Member Eric Tanner assisted in the preparation of this application/description. This is a promising grant because the city is the target size and economic condition that these Rural Development grants are designed for. This is all very preliminary still at this time, but staff hopes to hear soon from USDA regarding their impression of the project.
- Wildlife Viewing Station. The Master Naturalists have approached the city to discuss plans to possibly bring a Wildlife Viewing Station to Granite Shoals similar to the one at Inks Lake.

**b.) Assistant City Manager**

- Storm Damage Update: The recent rains knocked out power to City Hall briefly. The rain damaged the 'prep work' that had been done to some streets which are scheduled to be paved this year. The flood areas were photographed and Mr. Greg Haley, the engineer, was invited to review pictures and flooded areas. This information will assist him as he designs the road arterial infrastructure project. We lost a mature tree at Bluebriar Park. The storm knocked it down and it slightly damaged a pavilion. It was also full of bees.

- Water Award : At the recent meeting of Water System officials, the groundwater from Granite Shoals won the 'taste test'.

It was noted that the surface water, from Lake LBJ, is tasting bad recently. Peggy Smith explained that the storms affected the taste of the lake water, and the annual thermal inversion is happening now. Within a few weeks we hope that the water settles down. Since the floodgates are no longer open, we are optimistic this will be the case.

**c.) City Secretary**

- Election Update: The invoice for the May 7, 2016 City of Granite Shoals Special and General Elections arrived from Burnet County Election Administrator Doug Ferguson. The Elections cost $646.69. This is approximately 27% of what was budgeted in the Elections Expenses line of the current budget. Factoring in 199 voters, the each vote cost approximately $3.25 per vote, not including publication of notices and etc.

Micheal Steenbergen was recognized by Mayor Brugger. He made several complaints including but not limited to: that the 50th Year Bash should not have been held during the recent Election campaign. Also critized the recent city newsletter for listing email addresses for Council Members who are incumbents but not the candidates running in opposition. He complained that the Highlander News did not host the candidate forum that they normally do each year.

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

*The items listed are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the City Council and will be approved by one motion, There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to a motion and vote. The item will be considered in its normal sequence of the regular agenda.*

a. Approve City Council Regular Meeting minutes from May 24, 2016.
b. Approve and accept the City of Granite Shoals' 2015 Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2015, as audited and presented by BrooksCardiel.

Mayor Pro Tem Dillard made a motion, and Council Member Tanner seconded, to approve the items on the Consent agenda, as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

## 8. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

a. Discuss, consider and possibly take action related to establishing regulations for heavy trucks on Phillips Ranch Road. *(City Attorney Brad Young)*

City Attorney Young introduced the agenda item and presented the staff report. Staff is presently evaluating various options and strategies that the City might undertake to address the effects of trucks or other heavy equipment used for industrial purposes traveling over the streets,

bridges, and other public ways located within the City. Within the scope of the City's authority to regulate and maintain these public ways for the benefit of the citizens of Granite Shoals, and to prevent activities that would result in damage to this infrastructure, the City intends to explore potential actions to address circumstances resulting from industrial truck traffic or heavy equipment, including for example, conditions of debris left by such traffic and damage (beyond normal wear and tear) caused by such traffic.

As part of this evaluation process, in which City staff is weighing the legal and technical pros and cons of various alternatives, the following is a general summary of the types of actions that may be considered:

1. Adoption of a new City ordinance that may include some or all of the following types of provisions:
   a) Requirements for City-issued permits, with related fees, for various classes of commercial vehicle using public ways within Granite Shoals' city limits;
   b) Legal remedies for damage caused to the City's public ways;
   c) Provisions addressing road debris from commercial vehicles; and
   d) Misdemeanor penalty provisions (and fines) for violations.

   A copy of similar provisions, from the City Code of the City of Manvel, is attached here as an illustration of the types of provisions under consideration.

2. Development of a form of standard Road Repair Agreement, to be used by Granite Shoals and entered into with identified commercial entities whose vehicles or other heavy equipment are likely to generate debris and/or cause damage to the City's public ways.

3. Designation of specific routes to be used by trucks and other heavy equipment on certain state highways within City limits, as allowed under state law and in coordination with the Texas Department of Transportation.

Mr. Arturo Rubio: He noted that the city should be sensitive to local businesses that have trucks and large equipment. There should not be an unfair burden placed on these businesses to address road damage that is done by other vehicles as well. He asked that there be a clear vision of this program before Ordinance is adopted.

Mayor Brugger noted that the Streets and Water Advisory Group would be the most appropriate group to consider this issue in light of our city's specific situation(s).

Mayor Brugger made a motion, and Council Member Tanner seconded, to refer this issue to the SWAG to do the 'committee work' on this to customize the proposed ordinance to fit our situation. They should do the research and hold Public Hearings to get citizen input. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

b. Discuss, consider and possibly take action related to the appointment of members to Boards and Committees. *(City Secretary Simpson)*

At this time, City Council has several applications for consideration of appointment to Boards and Committees. Three previous City Council candidates have applied for consideration of appointment, as per request of Mayor Brugger back in February.

At the last City Council meeting May 24, 2016, city staff was directed to contact the two applicants for the Street and Water Advisory Group and verify that the applicants were familiar with the meeting schedule for the Group; as it recently was changed. At that time, there were two applicants for SWAG: Mr. Skinner and Mr. Steenbergen. Mr. Skinner was appointed to Parks Committee and attended their meeting June 2, 2016. There is now a third application for SWAG received from Mr. Arturo Rubio, dated May 26, 2016. SWAG has only one vacancy.

At the June 6th SWAG Regular Meeting held at 4:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, Mr. Steenbergen and Mr. Rubio both were in attendance.

Mr. Steenbergen and Mr. Rubio have submitted three applications each. Mr. Steenbergen is aware of the 'no more than two' committee appointment rule, and has also submitted his list of preferred committee placements, in order: SWAG, BOA and BAG. In his email dated June 1, 2016, Mr. Steenbergen requests that city staff take note, and to relay to City Council, that he desires to be considered for appointment to only one committee at this time. Mr. Rubio has not indicated his preferences, but he has relevant experience as a contractor that would be helpful on SWAG.

> Council Member Tanner made a motion to appoint Arturo Rubio to Streets and Water Advisory Group (SWAG), Council Member Hisey seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Council Member King advised that city staff will assist Mr. Rubio if he has any issues on SWAG which present a conflict of interest for him, as a contractor.

There are two vacancies on the Wildlife Advisory Committee. There are two applicants: Mr. Arturo Rubio and Ms. Tina Collier. Ms. Collier submitted her application after attending the SWAG meeting Monday, June 6, 2016. She also indicates that she plans to attend the Town Hall Meeting regarding Deer Management on Saturday, June 18, 2016 from 9-11 AM at the Fire Hall.

> Council Member Hisey made a motion to appoint Tina Collier to the Wildlife Advisory Committee, Council Member Morren seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

The Board of Adjustments has one vacancy at this time. Currently, the applicants for this vacancy are: Michael Steenbergen and Arturo Rubio.

Mayor Pro Tem Dillard made a motion, and Council Member Hisey seconded, to appoint Mr. Michael Steenbergen to the Board of Adjustments. Motion failed by a vote of 3 Ayes, 4 Nays.
Ayes: Hisey, King and Dillard.
Nays: Brugger, Tanner, Holland and Morren.

Mr. Steenbergen indicated at this time that he wished to withdraw his application for consideration of appointment to Beautification Advisory Committee (BAG).

Mayor Brugger recessed the meeting for a break from 7:44 PM to 8:02 PM.

9. **WORK SESSION(S):**

a.) Discuss and consider preliminary ideas for Budget priorities for the 2016-2017 City Fiscal Year as submitted by City Council members.

Mr. Jim Davant, 310 S. Shorewood: Explained that priority for Code Enforcement should be focused on overgrown lots and health hazards. Due to the recent rains, the vegetation will be grown up and will present a wildfire dange this summer, as well as habitat for vermin. Vacant lots and abandoned structures should be addressed, this will improve the city.

The Council members read their respective lists of Budget priorities, which were included in the agenda packet.

City Manager Nickel discussed the priorities which he had written up in the following format:

1. Road Improvements (Current and long Term)
    - Submit and provide support for the $5,000,000 USDA grant for Phillips Ranch Road and Prairie Creek
    - Increase street maintenance budget to $200,000 with additional sales tax receipts in 2016-2017 budget
    - Improve pot holes street repairs, both in timeliness and reliability
    - Reassess side street paving goals

2. Water Supply Improvement
    - Continue to provide a safe and efficient water supply to citizens
    - Continue replacement program for the water plant membrane units
    - Start a major water line replacement program

- Complete the installation of GIS Database on the Web which allows for multiple users. Update the water line mapping.
- Review water sampling procedures to reduce reportable non-compliant sampling errors

3. Execute current grants, close out whenever possible and aggressively pursue new grant opportunities
    - USDA Grant for road improvement (same as above)
    - TPWD grant for Quarry Park complex
    - CAPCOG grant for a new community center

4. Continue to provide a safe community
    - Continue current level of service
    - Increase Animal Control availability on weekends and after 5pm
    - Identify opportunities to reduce overall cost in this activity

5. Facility Improvements
    - Repair to City Hall roof
    - Development of soccer field adjacent to Highland Lakes Elementary School
    - Minor updates and repairs to old community center
6. Increase Code Compliance activity by approximately 15% over 2015-2016 goals
7. Maintain and improve the City's Financial Stability
    - Increase the General Fund balance (Goal is three months operation reserve)
    - Fund the capital replacement plan
    - Effective debt management
8. Planning and Vision for the Future
    - Committee support and coordination
    - Annexation and Development Agreements
        - Initiate Web & Beaver Island re-annexation
        - Implement by February 2017 for new areas
    - Initiate Charter Review process

- Initiate Comprehensive Plan review –for 2017-2018 planning year
- Economic development marketing study/plan

9. Hire and maintain a strong workforce
10. Maintain or improve customer service and teamwork
11. Maintain or improve citizen communications
    - Twice a year city letter sent to our residents to update the city activities
    - Meetings with the Mayor
    - Town Hall meetings

**General Fund**

- City Annual event (5k fun run, festival)
- Soccer field at Highland Lakes Elementary school
- USDA road improvement grant
- Complete remodeling at Community Center
- Apply for $500k Park Grant –Grant Development
- Fix Roof at City Hall
- Annexation and Development agreements
- Newsletter twice a year
- Update City Charter
- Update Comprehensive plan
- Record retention process
- Update software version of City's Website
- Finalizes new Zoning Ordinance
- Committee Support by staff (currently 7 committees)
- Economic Development market study/plan

- Evaluate the city building at 410 N. Phillips Ranch Road (HVAC, Electrical, plumbing, roof and interior)

**Utilities**

- Review the wells pumps at Sherwood Shores 3 –Hoover Valley
- Apply for new Water Grants. Work on the execution of the $275k grant
- Update the Web GIS with water lines, cutoff valves and other information
- Water line replacement program

**Parks**

- Wildlife Viewing station
- Survey the park property except Quarry Park
- Increase Park Maintenance on Hike and Bike Trail

The Council directed City Manager to bring back the priorities with consideration of concerns discussed tonight.

b.) Discuss proposed budget season meeting calendar.

The Budget calendar was approved as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Dillard will preside over some Special Called Budget Meeting(s) in place of Mayor Brugger.

10. **EXEC. SESSIONS:**

*a.) Executive session pursuant to sections 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act (Personnel Matters): Discussion regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of the following public employees: City Manager Ken Nickel, City Secretary Elaine Simpson, City Attorney Brad Young, Municipal Judge Frank Reilly.*

*b.) Executive (Closed) meeting as authorized by Texas Government Code. Executive session pursuant to section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act (Consultation with Attorney) to seek and receive legal advice from the city's legal counsel relating to personnel matters.*

*c.) Any action resulting from Executive Session(s).*

Mayor Brugger recessed the Open Meeting at 9:53 PM and called to order the Executive Session in the City Hall downstairs conference room (due to Air conditioner issues on 2nd floor) at 10:00 PM.

Mayor Brugger adjourned the Executive Session at 10:44 PM.
Mayor Brugger reconvened the Open Meeting at 10:47 PM.

No Action Was Taken resulting from the Exec. Session.

11. **Future Meetings and Agenda Items**
    - Review Agenda Calendar
    - Identification of future agenda items

12. **Adjournment**

With no further business, and no objections from Council, Mayor Brugger adjourned the meeting at 10:54 PM.

Approved by City Council on the 28th of June, 2016

By: Carl Brugger
Carl Brugger, Mayor

Attest:

Elaine Simpson
Elaine Simpson, City Secretary

Exhibit 'A' June 14, 2016
Granite Shoals City Council
minutes.

My name is Michael Steenbergen. I am a property owner, registered voter and active member of our community. I have run for City Council twice and applied to sit on different City advisory groups. I have served both as an election clerk and election judge in our local Precinct 18 and I have been a duly appointed Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar for Burnet County. Today I speak as a concerned citizen's advocate.

Electoral Mandates and the Right to Govern

The City Council of Granite Shoals has no electoral mandate either to govern, or for its vision for the future of this City. The citizens and I question the validity of Council actions, and whether these actions truly represent the will of a majority of voting citizens in Granite Shoals. By suppressing voter participation and engagement in elections and by obstructing appointment of diverse opinions to advisory groups whether endemically or by design, the right to govern has been forfeited by this Council.

The City Charter allows for just such a situation. It is called government by direct vote of the people. The citizens, at this current date, need only 50 valid signatures to initiate elections on recalling council members, on initiating new ordinances, or on subjecting council actions to referendum of the people. This amazingly low number is the result of the manipulations and machinations that led to such low voter participation. I further announce that I am leading a group of active and engaged residents that includes registered voters far in excess of this number. We challenge this council and have begun a review of your actions and the allocation of City resources. We will be exercising our right to govern by the direct vote of the people. I must add a warning: Do not try to alter the Charter to stop us. We are watching.

You ask "What has the Council done wrong?"

First, this council has allocated resources to self serving special interest projects at the expense of the basic citizen needs. I am talking about the Castle on the Hill, The City Hall Taj Mahal, the Paradise Project. The council further intends to continue this pattern with a vision of self aggrandizement in a master plan that concentrates a great majority of city resources to this same small area, called Town Center, while neglecting infrastructure and basic needs that all cities are expected to provide.

Second, the council has possibly used its position to influence the elections and maintain its power by holding town hall meetings for everything except elections. By not engaging citizens, the council and city government just passed a tax increase or shall I say snuck it through without ever saying the word "tax increase." It must be nice to not be accountable. In a direct conversation with Mayor Bruger, he defended the methods of the city council in passing the tax proposal. I responded with "why in the world would you be scared to let the people know they were voting on a tax increase?" I will give a thorough review of the election under the appropriate agenda item.

Third, the roads are neglected and have a poor plan in place for the future. The past week I appeared before the Streets and Water Advisory Group. I delivered comments from a few dozen local residents about the roads and current city council. I am now entering that speech and citizens' comments into the record of this meeting. I do not intend to read the comments again. It was too shocking the first time and citizens present at the streets meeting told me the comments actually made them cry. In summary, the overwhelming public opinion inside of Granite Shoals, from local residents, is that roads should be treated equally for maintenance, upgrades and repairs, routing an equal number of dollars into the East Side as West side of Granite Shoals. The current vision and plan is unacceptable. The people are displeased with the council and city manager.

Solutions: After a preliminary review of information regarding roads and infrastructure in Granite Shoals I have come to the following conclusions that involve a phased approach in addressing the needs. Arturo Rubio consulted on the ball park costs (guesstimates) and preferred order of phases. Dennis McCoy provided background information and city history. I repeat this is a brief review and analysis pending further study. It will be delivered under the appropriate agenda item.

I wish to touch on other issues that will be dealt with in the coming weeks.

Revenue versus spending? Is the city broke?
Why are basic citizen needs not met?
SP Rating? Broke or not?
Bonds and Grants
Regular operating costs and overhead

Castle Politics and Town Center
First Principles - "We covet what we see" The obsession with the Castle on the Hill
Business Development of such properties generates income not overhead
– better to have income producing tenant
Development must be spread out
Just because it is a bargain does not mean you afford it – credit card syndrome

Code Compliance

Open Records and Charter Requirements on Record Keeping – City Manager Duty, not Volunteers

City Hall – Review Safety – Steps – Square Bull Nose
Watch Your Step signs

Solar Energy: A Bright Future
PEC and Area Collection Stations

I could go on for hours because so much has been neglected in our city over the last decade, but I am going to conclude out of respect for other speakers. During this election I spoke up about issues here in Granite Shoals. The people listened and responded. I have heard so much, so much wrong, so much unfairness… that I must now become the "Voice of the People." They can not all be present, they work, they are doing chores, they are taking care of children…but I can be here and I will. I am just over a year from retirement and I intend to devote myself to serving the people of this city. A new era of accountability and communication has arrived in Granite Shoals Texas.

I finish with a personal note in hopes of building a working relationship with the people in this room. I have always written poetry and my musician friends have set some to tunes. This is the first poem that I actual wrote music for myself and turned into a song on my own. No I'm not going to sing, just quote the poem for you.

## Small House

I live in a small house
but I'm a rich man.

Bring no hatred with you,
you won't find any within.

I live in a small house
furnished only with love
Good earth below me.
Blue skies above.

Speech 2

Elections

By throwing a city festival (or campaign rally) during the election period and banning opposition candidates from having a booth iy seems the Council wanted to influence the election. Mailing a city newsletter during the election period that boldly highlights council members and their contact information but provides no contact information for opposition also seemed like campaigning. Both these actions involved spending city money. It is possible that makes these expenditures subject to campaign contribution reporting requirements however, I am sure you will find nothing is reported. This needs more review.

Further skewing the election, the local newspaper failed to provide coverage of opposition views until well into voting and did not host the usual election forum. In the weeks before the election, newspaper coverage concentrated on the accomplishments of City Hall but carried nothing about opposition candidates' views. The reporter did manage to send me an email indicating slight disdain and telling me if I was elected I had a lot to learn. The Highlander newspaper receives payment as the "paper of record" for the city, and the newspaper reporter is an active participant in the current council-committee government and seems to hold a strong bias. Yes I know I am not supposed to talk about things like this but it just happens to be true and from now forward I would suggest to the reporter, just say you don't like me and that you do support the council, but please print it as the opinion it is and not as fact. There are journalistic ethics in play here.

My final observation on the election is that the City government mailed notice of the election to all water permit holders. This action discriminates against identifiable groups and may be in violation of the civil rights act. This is an extremely serious

allegation. Further, the city published on its website and in its newsletter that citizens needed their blue identification card to vote. I believe this is in violation of State and Federal law and again discriminates against identifiable groups. This would suppress voter turnout.

In response to these behaviors and others not mentioned, our citizens group is drafting a "Fair Elections" ordinance to require an "Election Forum" (similar to a town hall) be held before any special or general election. We are writing the ordinance strong enough to diminish the incumbency factor in manipulating the meeting. So many citizens in Granite Shoals have been surprised to find out that we even had an election that it is clear voters have not been engaged by the city government or current council to provide a chance for open discussion of candidates and issues. The large majority of citizens contacted feel like they never had an election. Well, Granite Shoals did have a vote and the current city council maintained all its seats and citizens raised sales tax. But the large majority, I say again, of citizens do not know this. The only solution is to use the power of Initiative granted the citizens in the founding charter to pass ordinances by direct vote. The citizens must pass an ordinance that requires a town hall meeting before all elections. This simple action will forever shift the balance of power back to the people in Granite Shoals. [Read Attachment One]

*... that no election be held in the City of Granite Shoals without there first being a town hall meeting, fairly moderated, for all candidates to speak their minds and address ballot measures.*

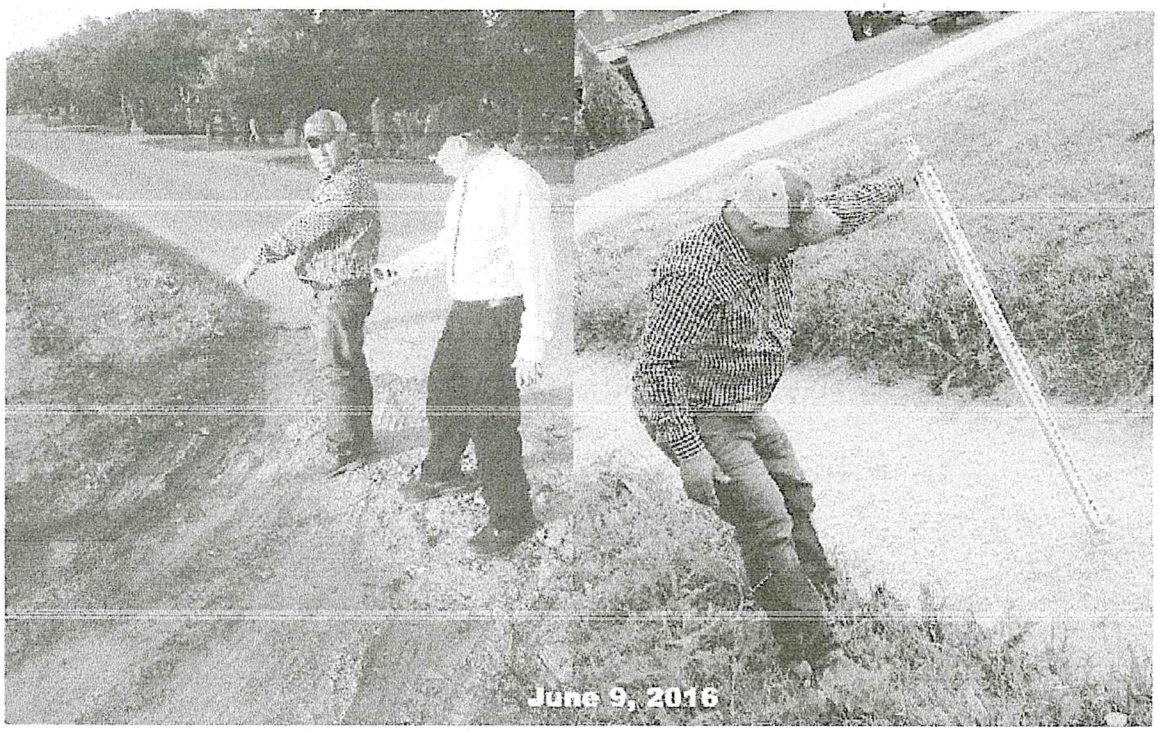
Speech 3
Roads and Infrastructure

Phase I: Drainage

The first step before any major upgrades or rework of streets is to solve the drainage issues that have developed and been neglected. "Drainage First" must be the primary rule so subsequent phases are not undermined from the start with high erosion and damage. On the East side of town, during heavy rain, reports of children unable to bath, wash clothes or get out of driveways for school are common because of widespread flooding. Roads are greatly deteriorated as a result of flooding. We dig out the existing drainage system after finding the lowest point based on the flood plain maps. This is just ditches, not paved waterways. (Example of need: Valley West at Kingsport)
1.5 million $$$

**Rubio and Steenbergen Move from Campaign Trail to Citizens' Advocates**

Arturo Rubio and Michael Steenbergen Inspect a 10 to 15 Year Old Drainage Problem at Valley West and Kingsport



Phase II: Water Lines

We need to upgrade undersized and outdated water lines. This can not continue to be ignored. All cities have to do this yet ours just keeps putting it off. This must be done before road upgrades and paving.
3.5 million $$$

Phase III: Paving

Set a plan for paving and include all areas and when we will get to them. We need time tables and projections of completion dates. We need better communication so that citizens understand what is being done and when.
No Guesstimate yet

Phase IV: Upgrade

After these three phases we can go to Phase Four and upgrade at the level the current proposal under discussion does. I am clearly stating it is wrong to start with Phase 4 like the current vision does.

7 million to include all three Valley View, Prairie Creek and Phillips Ranch

– Funding ideas see attachment 4

Continuous Phases:

1. Road Maintenance and Repair
2. Long Term Wastewater Plan – Restart Sewer Committee or Combine Function to Another Committee (SWAG) Federal Government will eventually say no more septic tanks – happens to all lakeside developments eventually

In summary, as we go forward, let us work together to review current operations, current plans and the future plans so the citizens can direct where their money is to be spent.

Attachment 4

Possible Funding Sources:
https://www.transportation.gov/livability/grants-programs#Surface%20Transportation%20Improvement

## Non-urbanized Area Formula Grant Program (Transit Grants for Rural and Small Urban Areas)

**Brief Summary:** This program (49 U.S.C. 5311) provides formula funding to states for the purpose of supporting public transportation in areas of less than 50,000 populations. Eighty percent of the statutory formula is based on the nonurbanized population of the States. Twenty percent of the formula is based on land area. No State may receive more than 5 percent of the amount apportioned for land area. In addition, FTA adds amounts apportioned based on nonurbanized population according to the

eligible for almost all Federal-aid highway funding categories. Each State has a Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator in its State Department of Transportation to promote and facilitate nonmotorized transportation, including developing pedestrian and bicycle facilities and public educational, promotional, and safety programs.
**How to Apply:** Pedestrian and bicycle projects and programs are eligible for almost all Federal-aid highway funding categories. Applicants should consult program eligibility criteria available in their State. The State Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinators can help with questions specific to each State.
**Link:** www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/>

**Name of Program:** Transportation Enhancement Activities
**Brief Summary:** Transportation Enhancement (TE) activities offer funding opportunities to expand transportation choices and enhance the transportation experience through 12 eligible TE activities related to surface transportation, including pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and safety programs, scenic and historic highway programs, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation. TE projects must relate to surface transportation and must qualify under one or more of the 12 eligible categories.
**Who is Eligible:** Each State develops its own procedures to solicit and select projects for funding. States may make funds available to Federal, Tribal, State, or local government agencies. A few States allow private nonprofit organizations to apply in partnership with a government agency.
**How to Apply:** Contact State TE Program Managers: www.enhancements.org/Stateprofile.asp [external link]
**Link:** www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/te

**Name of Program:** The Safe Routes to School Program
**Brief Summary:** The purpose of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program is to enable and encourage children, including

those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school; to make walking and bicycling to school safe and more appealing; and to facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects that will improve safety, and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools. The SRTS Program makes funding available for a wide variety of programs and projects, from building safer street crossings to establishing programs that encourage children and their parents to walk and bicycle safely to school. The Federal-aid Safe Routes to School program was created by Section 1404 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU, Pub. L. 109-59). The SRTS Program is funded at $612 million and provides Federal-aid highway funds to State highway agencies over five fiscal years (FY 2005 - 2009), in accordance with a formula specified in the legislation.

**How to Apply:** The national SRTS program is federally funded, but managed and administered by each State Department of Transportation (DOT). Funds are made available for infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects, and to administer Safe Routes to School programs that benefit elementary and middle school children in grades K-8. Each State is responsible for hiring a full-time Safe Routes to School Coordinator to implement a SRTS statewide program. The complete list of SRTS Coordinators can be found at:
http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/contacts/complete_list.cfm [external link].

**Link:** http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes.

**Name of Program:** Pedestrian Safety Program State Assessment

**Brief Summary:** In a Pedestrian Safety Program State Assessment, a team of outside subject matter experts conduct a comprehensive assessment of the State pedestrian highway safety program using an organized, objective approach that provides an overview of the program's current status in comparison to pre-

growing States formula factors of 49 U.S.C. 5340 to the amounts apportioned to the States under the Section 5311 program. Funds may be used for capital, operating, and administrative assistance to state agencies, local public bodies, Indian tribes, and nonprofit organizations, and operators of public transportation services. The State must use 15 percent of its annual apportionment to support intercity bus service, unless the Governor certifies, after consultation with affected intercity bus providers that these needs of the state are adequately met. Projects to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Clean Air Act, or bicycle access projects, may be funded at 90 percent Federal match. The maximum FTA share for operating assistance is 50 percent of the net operating costs.

**Eligibility:** Areas with population of less than 50,000 (nonurbanized areas); rural areas; Tribal territories.

**How to Apply:** Funding is apportioned to each State through a formula. See FTA Circular C 9040.1F, "Nonurbanized Area Formula Program Guidance and Grant Application Instructions"http://www.fta.dot.gov/laws/circulars/leg_reg_6519.html

**Link:**
http://www.fta.dot.gov/funding/grants/grants_financing_3555.html

## *Bike and Pedestrian*

**Name of Program:** Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
**Brief Summary:** The Federal Highway Administration's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program promotes bicycle and pedestrian transportation use, safety, and accessibility. The Program is responsible for implementing Federal transportation legislation and policy related to bicycling and walking.
**Who is Eligible:** The Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is not a funding program. Pedestrian and bicycle projects and programs are

established standards; note the program's strengths and weaknesses; and provide recommendations for improvement. The recommendations are based on the NHTSA Highway Safety Program Guideline No. 14, *Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety* which includes program management, multidisciplinary involvement, legislation, regulation and policy, law enforcement, highway and traffic engineering, communication, outreach, driver education and licensing and evaluation. The final assessment report is released to the State to be used as a benchmark for future project initiatives. Currently FHWA offers formal safety performance examinations of existing or future roads by an independent, multidisciplinary team through the Road Safety Audit program. In an audit the team qualitatively estimates and reports on potential road safety issues and identifies opportunities for improvements in safety for all road users.

**Who is eligible:** Any state Highway Safety Office is eligible to hold a Pedestrian Safety Program State Assessment.

**How to apply:** State Highway Safety Office's submit a request for an assessment to their NHTSA Regional office.

**Name of Program:** Recreational Trails Program

**Brief Summary:** The RTP provides funds to the States to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses.

**Who is Eligible:** Each State develops its own procedures to solicit and select projects for funding. States may make funds available to Federal, Tribal, State, or local government agencies. Some States allow private nonprofit organizations to apply directly.

**How to Apply:** Contact State RTP Administrators: In most States, the program is administered through a State resource agency.

**Link:** www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails